



PRESS RELEASE

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Red Meat Production in Pennsylvania Up 6 Percent in July

HARRISBURG, PA, Aug 25, 2006 --- Commercial red meat production, dressed weight basis, in **Pennsylvania** during July 2006 totaled 95.4 million pounds, up 6 percent from July 2005, according to the Pennsylvania Field Office of USDA's National Agricultural Statistics Service.

Beef production, at 83.2 million pounds live weight, was up slightly from July 2005. Total head slaughtered was 68,800, up slightly. Live weight averaged 1,211 pounds, up 3 pound from last year. Veal production was 5.9 million pounds live weight, up 22 percent from last year. Calf slaughter of 13,600 head was up 18 percent from last year. Average live weight increased 11 pounds to 429 pounds.

Pork production was 56.2 million pounds live weight, up 11 percent from last year. Total head slaughtered was 228,200, up 9 percent from July 2005. Average live weight increased 4 pound from last year to 246 pounds.

Lamb and mutton production during July 2006 was 439,000 pounds live weight, up 3 percent. The number slaughtered was 4,500, up 7 percent from last year. Average live weight decreased 3 pounds to 97 pounds.

Nationally, commercial red meat production, dressed weight basis, in July 2006 totaled 3.78 billion pounds, up 5 percent from the 3.61 billion pounds produced in July 2005. Compared with a year earlier beef production, dressed weight basis, at 2.20 billion pounds, was up 6 percent. Veal production totaled 12.0 million pounds, down 4 percent from July a year ago.

Pork production totaled 1.55 billion pounds, up 3 percent from the previous year. Lamb and mutton production, at 13.2 million pounds, was down 1 percent from July 2005.

January-July red meat production was 27.1 billion pounds, up 5 percent from July 2005. Accumulated beef production was up 7 percent from last year, veal was down 4 percent, pork was up 2 percent from last year, and lamb and mutton production was up 2 percent.

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